# Utah Bureau of Criminal Identification NEWSERTER Department of Public Safety

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# TAC CONFERENCE 2007

The 2007 BCI TAC Conference will be May 22-24 at Southern Utah University in Cedar City. (See http://www.suu.edu/campmap/campus.html for a campus map. We'll be in the building marked "34" on the map.)

A "mostly finalized" agenda is available on the TAC website – but please keep in mind there may be slight changes made in the next few months.

Among the guest speakers this year will be representatives from the ATF's office, as well as a presentation on identity theft issues by the Attorney General's Office. We will also be offering a panel discussion with BCI personnel, and a panel discussion featuring representatives from different types of criminal justice agencies (law enforcement, courts, corrections, etc.)

The 22nd will be an optional registration day with some optional classes being offered to those who want to attend. Those who do not register on the 22nd must register on the 23rd.

Representation for each agency is required on the 23rd and 24th.

The registration fee is \$60 per attendee, but if we receive your payment on or before April 13 you will qualify for the early registration discount fee of \$50 per person. **No registrations will be accepted after May 4, 2007.** If you've given your application to your accounting department make sure they send it in to BCI as soon as possible!

BCI has not made arrangements with any hotels in the Cedar City area, so each agency must make its own arrangements for lodging.

BCI will provide lunch on the 23rd, and breakfast on the 24th.

For questions about registration, please contact Adrienne Sowards at asowards@utah.gov or (801) 965-4497.

### FIELD SERVICE CHANGES

Congratulations and welcome to our newest member of Field Services – Jason Chapman!

Jason is taking over Chuck Collett's position as the representative over the southeast region. His phone number is the same as Chuck's was – 801-965-4409.

We would like to remind agencies to always try and contact their designated representative when necessary. This way your representative can become more familiar with your agency's unique situations and problems.

The region assignments are:

Beaver, Iron, Juab, Millard, Tooele, Utah, Washington counties: Holly – 801-964-4566.

Box Elder, Cache, Davis, Morgan, Rich, Weber counties: Della – 801-965-4454

Carbon, Daggett, Duchesne, Emery, Garfield, Grand, Kane, Piute, San Juan, Sanpete, Sevier, Summit, Uintah, Wasatch, Wayne counties: Jason – 801-965-4409.

Salt Lake County agencies\* (see exceptions below): Adrienne – 801-965-4497.

\*Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office Della – 801-965-4454

\*Salt Lake City PD - Holly - 801-964-4566

\*DLD and ORS - Jason - 801-965-4409

However, if your representative is not available, you are always welcome to contact any member of Field Services for assistance.

### CRIME LAB NEWS



Utah Dept. of Public Safety, Bureau of Forensic Services (BFS) has become the second full service Forensic Laboratory System in the USA to become accredited under the International Standards Organization (ISO) criteria for testing laboratories

On December 11-15, 2006, an inspection team with American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors-Laboratory Accreditation Board-International Group (ASCLD/LAB-International) conducted on-site assessments of Utah's four state forensic laboratories. Out of the 385 standards that BFS had to comply with, inspectors had five total findings at the Central laboratory, two at the Northern and Eastern facilities and no findings at the Southern laboratory. All of the findings were very minor in nature and corrective action plans have already been formulated and implemented.

Corrective action plans were submitted to ASCLD/LAB by the January 14, 2007 deadline for approval and will be monitored for effectiveness for 90 days. After this period of time, the laboratory will become accredited to the new ASCLD/LAB International standards. The Utah Bureau of Forensic Services will be the second laboratory system in the nation (after the Oregon State Patrol) to become fully ISO accredited.

The inspectors congratulated BFS for proceeding with this advanced level of accreditation and meeting the higher standards. They were very impressed with BFS's organization and said it was very unusual to have so few findings on a first inspection. Also, there were no findings with the supplemental DNA advisory board (DAB) document required to do DNA accredited analysis. The two biology inspectors said they had never seen this happen before.

BFS anticipates that all corrective action will be finished and ASCLD/LAB-International accreditation will be awarded during March or April of 2007. This accreditation ensures the highest worldwide standards of forensic laboratory analysis will be conducted and provided to Utah's citizens and public safety community.

Congrats to the Crime Lab!

### SECOND PARTY CHECKS AND NCIC VALIDATIONS

When performing a second-party check on an NCIC entry, the checker simply needs to make sure nothing is missing – right?

When validating an NCIC entry, the validator just needs to make sure the person or object is still missing – right?

Wrong! When performing a second-party check, the person doing the check needs to ensure that all fields contain correct and accurate NCIC codes. This most likely means the second-party checker will have to have the NCIC Code Manual at hand when doing the check.

Also, when performing the annual NCIC Validation on each entry, the person doing the validations also needs to make sure that correct codes are being used. We all make typos – but agencies need to make sure the typos are not staying on NCIC forever!

Part of the validation process includes finding and correcting any errors made in the initial NCIC entry. Doing so increases the chances that your wanted person will be caught – or that your stolen property will be recovered!

### BODY DECAY ID SYSTEM

Scientists Create Body Decay ID System UPI

January 19, 2007

OAK RIDGE, TN — U.S. scientists have created a system designed to help locate hidden burial sites and provide evidence that points to the victims' killers.

The researchers led by forensics expert Arpad Vass at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory's biosciences division say odors released from decomposing corpses in such graves can provide a chemical fingerprint. The researchers say their project, begun four years ago, identifies the "odor signature" unique to human burial decomposition and could lead to improved cadaver dog training and possibly to a portable instrument that could help locate human remains. The research, performed with assistance from the University of Tennessee, is funded by the FBI.

# FINDING CRIMINALS ON THE INTERNET

Web Profiles New Source for Police

December 6, 2006 -- The Charlotte Observer

MELISSA MANWARE AND DÁNICA COTO

When police went to search a Wilmington house for stolen PlayStation 3 consoles last week, they brought heavily armed deputies because a picture on the Internet had made them think the college students inside might be armed.

Investigators had found an online photograph of a man who hung out at the house posing with two others and what appeared to be an assault rifle, pistols and a shotgun.

Millions of young people post their personal thoughts and photographs in cyberspace. And law enforcement has begun combing through it in search of useful information about the lives of young people — and evidence of crimes.

"We've got to pay attention to it," said Charlotte-Mecklenburg police Capt. Eddie Levins, who heads the Intelligence and Organized Crime Division. "Years ago, we'd go to bars and read cards on the walls to learn who was selling dope. Now kids are putting all kinds of stuff (on these sites). These have become intelligence tools for us."

Levins said police use MySpace, Facebook, YouTube and other sites to find young people wanted for crimes. They also use the sites to learn what's happening in schools and neighborhoods, and get an idea what kids are talking about.

Most commonly it's detectives in the gang and intelligence units who troll the sites, but Levins said more officers are getting trained because the sites have become so popular — and young people are so frank on them.

Fred Stutzman, a doctoral student in information science at UNC Chapel Hill, said young people who post their profiles online often don't realize police may be looking at them.

Officers, though, have to remember that digital pictures can be altered, and also that those posing with gang signs or toting guns often are simply mimicking what they see in movies or on CD covers, he said.

A study last year found that half the nation's teens — 12 million youths — have created content on the Internet.

Two months ago, after a 17-year-old was charged with having an assault-style rifle outside an East Mecklenburg High football game, a Charlotte crime blogger posted photographs of that teen and more than a dozen others posing either with guns or flashing gang signs. The photographs, according to the blog, were taken from MySpace, and depicted Charlotte-area teens.

Police across the country are using the Internet as part of criminal investigations:

- ▶ In Pennsylvania, police used photographs posted on Webshots.com to place teenage crash victims at a party where beer and rum were served, according to court documents.
- ▶ In Colorado, a 16-year-old was charged with illegal gun possession after authorities said he posted photos on MySpace showing himself holding guns.
- ► Police at Penn State used Facebook to find unruly football fans who rushed the field after a win against Ohio State University.

Summary from the December 6, 2006 "Charlotte Observer"

### UCR/IBR INFORMATION

### **NIBRS BASIC TRAINING CLASS**

A NIBRS Basic Training Class will be held on March 27, 2007 9:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m. at the BCI Building (3888 West 5400 South). This class will cover the very basics of NIBRS submissions. You will learn how to classify an offense according to the FBI NIBRS definitions, learn error reports and posting reports and how these will help your agency's accuracy with their crime statistics.

To register for this class please call Mary Ann Curtis at 801 965-4812 and leave a voice message with the number and names of the people attending, phone numbers and email addresses, or you can email that information to Mary Ann at macurtis@utah.gov.

### MISSING PERSONS

### "ADAM WALSH" ACT

NCIC policy has always stated that a missing child must be entered into NCIC "immediately." But what is "immediately?"

The "Adam Walsh" Act has defined "immediately" as "within two hours."

In general – Section 3702 of the Crime Control Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 5780) is amended—

TITLE 42--THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

CHAPTER 72--JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

SUBCHAPTER IV--MISSING CHILDREN

Sec. 5780. State requirements

Each State reporting under the provisions of this section and section 5779 of this title shall--

- 1) ensure that no law enforcement agency within the State establishes or maintains any policy that requires the observance of any waiting period before accepting a missing child or unidentified person report;
- (2) Ensure that no law enforcement agency within the state establishes or maintains any policy that requires the removal of a missing person entry from its state law enforcement system or the National Crime Information Center computer database based solely on the age of the person; and
- (3) provide that each such report and all necessary and available information, which, with respect to each missing child report, shall include--
  - (A) the name, date of birth, sex, race, height, weight, and eye and hair color of the child;
  - (B) the date and location of the last known contact with the child; and
  - (C) the category under which the child is reported missing; is entered **immediately** within 2 hours into the State law enforcement system and the National Crime Information Center computer networks and made available to the Missing Children Information

Clearinghouse within the State or other agency designated within the State to receive such reports; and

- (3) provide that after receiving reports as provided in paragraph (2), the law enforcement agency that entered the report into the National Crime Information Center shall—
  - (A) no later than 60 days after the original entry of the record into the State law enforcement system and National Crime Information Center computer networks, verify and update such record with any additional information, including, where available, medical and dental records:
  - (B) institute or assist with appropriate search and investigative procedures; and
  - (C) maintain close liaison with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children for the exchange of information and technical assistance in the missing children cases.

## OFFICER IN-SERVICE TRAINING – MISSING PERSONS, AMBER ALERTS, UNIDENTIFIEDS

New Training Offered at BCI

On April 27, 2007 BCI will be conducting a class for law enforcement officers covering:



- Missing and unidentified persons
- ▶ AMBER alert
- ▶ Endangered Person Advisories
- ► Human trafficking in Utah
- Utah sex offender registry
- ► DNA

Please contact Gina McMahon at (801) 965-4686 or gmcmahon@utah.gov for further information. More classes will be held in the future.

These cases are usually very high profile, with a great deal of media coverage. Handling such instances correctly can make your agency look very good! Or – if you handle them poorly, your agency will look foolish to the media and the public!